

CHIEF STANDING BEAR

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1043) honoring the life and legacy of Chief Standing Bear, a pioneer in civil rights for Native Americans, on the 100th anniversary of Chief Standing Bear's death.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1043

Whereas Chief Standing Bear was born on Ponca land in what is now Nebraska;

Whereas Chief Standing Bear became chief of the Ponca Tribe at a young age because of his leadership abilities;

Whereas, in 1878, Chief Standing Bear and the Ponca Tribe were forced by a Federal treaty to leave their home for Indian Territory in what is now Oklahoma;

Whereas the hardship of travel, illness, and the inhospitable conditions of Indian Territory caused many members of the tribe to perish including Chief Standing Bear's son;

Whereas Chief Standing Bear, determined to bury his son in his homeland, led 30 members of his tribe back to their home in Nebraska;

Whereas Chief Standing Bear and the 30 members of his tribe were arrested by the Department of the Interior upon their return;

Whereas Chief Standing Bear enlisted the help of Thomas Tibbles of the predecessor to the Omaha World-Herald and 2 attorneys to petition the Federal court to rule on the Ponca Tribe's treatment by the Government;

Whereas, in 1879, the case came before Judge Elmer Dundy;

Whereas Chief Standing Bear, at the conclusion of the court proceedings, extended his hand as he took the oath and said, "That hand is not the color of yours, but if I pierce it, I shall feel pain. If you pierce your hand, you also feel pain. The blood that will flow from mine will be the same color as yours. I am a man. God made us both";

Whereas as Judge Dundy ultimately ruled that Native Americans were citizens with all of the rights and freedoms guaranteed by the Constitution;

Whereas the Ponca won their freedom and eventually were able to return to their home in Nebraska;

Whereas Chief Standing Bear would spend the next 4 years touring the Eastern United States promoting Native American rights;

Whereas Chief Standing Bear demonstrated the highest level of courage and determination;

Whereas Chief Standing Bear made a vital contribution to civil rights for Native Americans; and

Whereas 2008 is the 100th anniversary of Chief Standing Bear's death: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives honors the life, legacy, and contributions to civil rights of Chief Standing Bear.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. RAHALL) and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from West Virginia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and in-

clude extraneous material on the resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from West Virginia?

There was no objection.

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. RAHALL asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RAHALL. Chief Standing Bear, a member of the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska, stood against the grains of injustice in the name of his people. His valuable and historic contributions as a Native American leader would be further honored on the 100th anniversary of his death through this resolution.

I would like to commend our colleague from Nebraska (Mr. FORTENBERRY) for sponsoring this resolution that is before us today.

I urge my colleagues to support its passage.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H.R. 1043 honors the life and legacy of Chief Standing Bear, a pioneer in civil rights for Native Americans. This resolution also commemorates the 100th anniversary of his death, and I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Chief Standing Bear.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from Nebraska, the sponsor of this bill, the author of this bill, Mr. FORTENBERRY.

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to begin by thanking the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. RAHALL) for his assistance in bringing this important resolution to the floor, as well as the distinguished gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) for his assistance as well.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this resolution, a measure I introduced earlier this year to honor the life and legacy of Chief Standing Bear. His plea for justice and human decency challenged the heart of our Nation, yet his poignant story as one of America's earliest civil rights leaders remains largely unknown.

2008 is the 100th anniversary of Chief Standing Bear's death. It is fitting that we honor this anniversary, that generations of Americans will know his life and his legacy.

Standing Bear was born in the Niobrara River Valley, in what is now Nebraska, in 1834. An individual of exceptional talent and ability, he became chief of the Ponca Tribe at a young age. In 1877, the Ponca people were forced by treaty to relocate from their home in Nebraska to the Indian territory of Oklahoma. The hardship of this 500-mile journey on foot, illnesses, as well as the harsh living conditions in Oklahoma, caused the death of many

members of the tribe, including Chief Standing Bear's son.

Committed to a promise he made to his son to return him to their Niobrara homeland for burial, Chief Standing Bear left for Nebraska with all who would follow him. Upon their return, the Chief and 30 of his fellow Ponca Tribe members were arrested by the Department of Interior in Omaha.

With the assistance of Omaha attorneys, John Webster and A.J. Poppleton, and frontier newsman, Thomas Tibbles, who worked for the predecessor to our current newspaper in Omaha, the Omaha World-Herald, Chief Standing Bear petitioned the Federal courts for relief from the unjust Federal treatment of the Ponca Tribe.

In 1879, the case came before U.S. District Court Judge Elmer Dundy. At the conclusion of his testimony, Chief Standing Bear raised his hand and he spoke these words: "That hand is not the color of yours," he said. "But if I pierce it, I shall feel pain. If you pierce your hand, you will also feel pain. The blood that will flow from mine will be the same color as yours. I am a man. God made us both."

The wisdom and dignity in Standing Bear's words were not lost on Judge Dundy who ruled that Native Americans are, in fact, citizens endowed with all of the rights and all of the freedoms guaranteed by the United States Constitution. Through the steadfast efforts of Chief Standing Bear and caring Nebraskans, the Ponca won their freedom and the right to return to their Nebraska homeland on the Niobrara where Chief Standing Bear declared, "Here we will live, and here we will die."

Chief Standing Bear would spend the next 4 years touring the United States advocating for Native Americans' civil rights and inspiring a generation. Then he returned to his home near the mouth of Niobrara, farmed his land, and died there a quarter century later in 1908.

Mr. Speaker, the courage and determination of Chief Standing Bear have earned him a place in our civil rights history. His example is an inspiration for all those engaged in the advancement of civil rights, of human rights.

I want to thank all of my colleagues in the House who have been supportive of bringing this resolution to the floor so that we can rightly honor this great man, Chief Standing Bear.

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time. I am prepared to yield back.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. I yield back my time.

Mr. RAHALL. I yield back my time. The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. RAHALL) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1043.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the

rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CONSOLIDATED NATURAL RESOURCES ACT OF 2008

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 2739) to authorize certain programs and activities in the Department of the Interior, the Forest Service, and the Department of Energy, to implement further the Act approving the Covenant to Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America, to amend the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate bill.

The text of the Senate bill is as follows:

S. 2739

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the “Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008”.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—FOREST SERVICE AUTHORIZATIONS

Sec. 101. Wild Sky Wilderness.

Sec. 102. Designation of national recreational trail, Willamette National Forest, Oregon, in honor of Jim Weaver, a former Member of the House of Representatives.

TITLE II—BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT AUTHORIZATIONS

Sec. 201. Piedras Blancas Historic Light Station.

Sec. 202. Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse Outstanding Natural Area.

Sec. 203. Nevada National Guard land conveyance, Clark County, Nevada.

TITLE III—NATIONAL PARK SERVICE AUTHORIZATIONS

Subtitle A—Cooperative Agreements

Sec. 301. Cooperative agreements for national park natural resource protection.

Subtitle B—Boundary Adjustments and Authorizations

Sec. 311. Carl Sandburg Home National Historic Site boundary adjustment.

Sec. 312. Lowell National Historical Park boundary adjustment.

Sec. 313. Minidoka National Historic Site.

Sec. 314. Acadia National Park improvement.

Subtitle C—Studies

Sec. 321. National Park System special resource study, Newtonia Civil War Battlefields, Missouri.

Sec. 322. National Park Service study regarding the Soldiers' Memorial Military Museum.

Sec. 323. Wolf House study.

Sec. 324. Space Shuttle Columbia study.

Sec. 325. César E. Chávez study.

Sec. 326. Taunton, Massachusetts, special resource study.

Sec. 327. Rim of the Valley Corridor study.

Subtitle D—Memorials, Commissions, and Museums

Sec. 331. Commemorative work to honor Brigadier General Francis Marion and his family.

Sec. 332. Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial Commission.

Sec. 333. Commission to Study the Potential Creation of a National Museum of the American Latino.

Sec. 334. Hudson-Fulton-Champlain Quadricentennial Commemoration Commission.

Sec. 335. Sense of Congress regarding the designation of the Museum of the American Quilter's Society of the United States.

Sec. 336. Sense of Congress regarding the designation of the National Museum of Wildlife Art of the United States.

Sec. 337. Redesignation of Ellis Island Library.

Subtitle E—Trails and Rivers

Sec. 341. Authorization and administration of Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail.

Sec. 342. Land conveyance, Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, Nebraska.

Sec. 343. Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail extension.

Sec. 344. Wild and scenic River designation, Eightmile River, Connecticut.

Subtitle F—Denali National Park and Alaska Railroad Exchange

Sec. 351. Denali National Park and Alaska Railroad Corporation exchange.

Subtitle G—National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Amendments

Sec. 361. Authorizing appropriations for specific purposes.

Subtitle H—Grand Canyon Subcontractors

Sec. 371. Definitions.

Sec. 372. Authorization.

TITLE IV—NATIONAL HERITAGE AREAS

Subtitle A—Journey Through Hallowed Ground National Heritage Area

Sec. 401. Purposes.

Sec. 402. Definitions.

Sec. 403. Designation of the Journey Through Hallowed Ground National Heritage Area.

Sec. 404. Management plan.

Sec. 405. Evaluation; report.

Sec. 406. Local coordinating entity.

Sec. 407. Relationship to other Federal agencies.

Sec. 408. Private property and regulatory protections.

Sec. 409. Authorization of appropriations.

Sec. 410. Use of Federal funds from other sources.

Sec. 411. Sunset for grants and other assistance.

Subtitle B—Niagara Falls National Heritage Area

Sec. 421. Purposes.

Sec. 422. Definitions.

Sec. 423. Designation of the Niagara Falls National Heritage Area.

Sec. 424. Management plan.

Sec. 425. Evaluation; report.

Sec. 426. Local coordinating entity.

Sec. 427. Niagara Falls Heritage Area Commission.

Sec. 428. Relationship to other Federal agencies.

Sec. 429. Private property and regulatory protections.

Sec. 430. Authorization of appropriations.

Sec. 431. Use of Federal funds from other sources.

Sec. 432. Sunset for grants and other assistance.

Subtitle C—Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area

Sec. 441. Purposes.

Sec. 442. Definitions.

Sec. 443. Designation of Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area.

Sec. 444. Management plan.

Sec. 445. Evaluation; report.

Sec. 446. Local coordinating entity.

Sec. 447. Relationship to other Federal agencies.

Sec. 448. Private property and regulatory protections.

Sec. 449. Authorization of appropriations.

Sec. 450. Use of Federal funds from other sources.

Sec. 451. Sunset for grants and other assistance.

Subtitle D—Authorization Extensions and Viability Studies

Sec. 461. Extensions of authorized appropriations.

Sec. 462. Evaluation and report.

Subtitle E—Technical Corrections and Additions

Sec. 471. National Coal Heritage Area technical corrections.

Sec. 472. Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area addition.

Sec. 473. South Carolina National Heritage Corridor addition.

Sec. 474. Ohio and Erie Canal National Heritage Corridor technical corrections.

Sec. 475. New Jersey Coastal Heritage trail route extension of authorization.

Subtitle F—Studies

Sec. 481. Columbia-Pacific National Heritage Area study.

Sec. 482. Study of sites relating to Abraham Lincoln in Kentucky.

TITLE V—BUREAU OF RECLAMATION AND UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY AUTHORIZATIONS

Sec. 501. Alaska water resources study.

Sec. 502. Renegotiation of payment schedule, Redwood Valley County Water District.

Sec. 503. American River Pump Station Project transfer.

Sec. 504. Arthur V. Watkins Dam enlargement.

Sec. 505. New Mexico water planning assistance.

Sec. 506. Conveyance of certain buildings and lands of the Yakima Project, Washington.

Sec. 507. Conjunctive use of surface and groundwater in Juab County, Utah.

Sec. 508. Early repayment of A & B Irrigation District construction costs.

Sec. 509. Oregon water resources.

Sec. 510. Republican River Basin feasibility study.

Sec. 511. Eastern Municipal Water District.

Sec. 512. Bay Area regional water recycling program.

Sec. 513. Bureau of Reclamation site security.

Sec. 514. More water, more energy, and less waste.

Sec. 515. Platte River Recovery Implementation Program and Pathfinder Modification Project authorization.

Sec. 516. Central Oklahoma Master Conservatory District feasibility study.

TITLE VI—DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AUTHORIZATIONS

Sec. 601. Energy technology transfer.

Sec. 602. Amendments to the Steel and Aluminum Energy Conservation and Technology Competitiveness Act of 1988.